

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Exercises of the 9th Gds Tank Div and Military Activities in Magdeburg

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT.

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

20 October 1954

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS: This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. At 1000 on 27 September 1954, a shipment of 9 T-34 tanks [] JS tank [] were detrained at the Neustrelitz railroad station and left toward Neue Infanterie Kaserne (2221). A railroadman stated that approximately 100 tanks were detrained at the Neustrelitz railroad station and left toward Neue Infanterie Kaserne during the night on 26 September. At noon on 28 September, a shipment with 6 x 37-mm AA guns and approximately 25 trucks [] [] passed through the Neustrelitz railroad station. The train came from the direction of Neubrandenburg and proceeded toward Berlin.

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2. Between 26 and 29 September, the following observations were made at the Neustrelitz post:

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Restricted area on Gerhart Hauptmann Strasse: Four M-13 rocket launchers and trucks [] returned to the restricted area. After the arrival of the column, the installation was occupied by approximately 200 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

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Alte Grenadier Kaserne (2225): An undetermined number of 122-mm field howitzers and 12 trucks returned to the installation. After the arrival of the column, the installation was occupied by approximately 300 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

Neue Infanterie Kaserne (2221): Tank units, returned to the installation.

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Restricted Schlossgarten area (2227): A six-wheel armored personnel carrier and trucks [] entered the installation, which was occupied by approximately 100 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

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3. At 2000 on 27 September, a train of 20 flatcars and 5 boxcars with personnel passed through the Neubrandenburg railroad station and proceeded southward. The train carried about 9 SP guns [redacted] tanks [redacted] 4 trucks and radio truck [redacted]

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4. At 1040 on 27 September, a train with 26 flatcars arrived at the

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Neubrandenburg railroad station from a northwesterly direction. The train carried approximately 17 T-34 tanks [REDACTED] JS-2 tanks [REDACTED] and 3 SP guns. The departure or direction of the train could not be determined.¹

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5. In the evening of 27 September, several engineer columns left the Seeckt Kaserne (5287) in Magdeburg and proceeded eastward. Motor vehicle [REDACTED] through [REDACTED]

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were seen. After the departure of the columns, the installation appeared to be vacant. After late September, the occupation strength of the Nachrichten Kaserne (5286) in Magdeburg decreased. In the evening on 29 September, supply trucks [REDACTED] left the installation and went toward the east.²

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. On 27 September major tank units of the 9th Gds Tank Div probably returned from exercises. The shipments which came from the north and passed through Neubrandenburg on that day indicate the location of the training area. [REDACTED] a shipment of units of the 31st AAA Div went from Velten to Demmin on 23 September. The units probably returned on the train which, according to the present report, passed through Neustrelitz on 28 September. [REDACTED] These observations tend to indicate that elements of the 9th Gds Tank Div, reinforced by units of the 31st AAA Div, conducted a tank exercise in the Demmin area between 23 and 26 September. Other information indicated that, at that time, artillery units of the division conducted an exercise in the Wesenberg-Mirow area, and elements of the unidentified Gds Hv Tank SP Regt apparently held small-scale exercises in the area north of Penzlin. [REDACTED]

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. On 27 September, units of the 36th Pon Bridge Regt of the GSFG possibly departed in order to participate in exercises of the reinforced IX Mtz Rifle Corps. The fact that units of the 19th Gds Mech Div left simultaneously partially confirms the assumption that the division again participated in exercises possibly of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps after 25 September. [REDACTED] It is possible that elements of the division, along with units of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div, were employed in the exercises as enemy forces in the Burg-Tangermuende Elbe section.

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